

REFUSAL TO BE A THIRD CANDIDATE

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the need of facing unpleasant facts. I am interested in the triumph of the great principles for which, with all my heart and soul, I have striven and shall continue to strive.

"I will not enter into any fight for the nomination, and I will not permit any factional fight to be made in my behalf. Indeed, I will go further and say that it would be a mistake to nominate me unless the country has in its mood something of the heroic, unless it feels not only a little devoted to the purpose measurably to realize those ideals in action.

" This is one of those rare times which come only at long intervals in a nation's history, when the action taken determines the basis of the life of the generations that follow. Such times were those from 1776 to 1789, in the days of Washington, and from 1858 to 1865, in the days of Lincoln.

"It is for us to-day to grapple with the tremendous national and international problems of our own hour in the spirit and with the ability shown by those who upheld the hands of "Washington and Lincoln."

This deliverance was in direct opposition to the earnest appeals of many of his followers that he keep silent on the question of a nomination and thereby avoid giving offense to the large pacifist element in the Western States; but a policy of silence never had attractions for him. Although he consented to allow his most ardent supporters to advocate his nomination by exhibiting his record to the public in various ways, because by so doing he

secured attention
for his views, he had little share in their faith
that the
Republicans could be induced to nominate
him* The one
thing that he was determined upon was that
there should be
no concealment of his views, that a nomination
should not
be secured by any misunderstandings as to his
principles,
and that under no circumstances would he run
again as a
third candidate. His attitude was defined
clearly in a
letter that he wrote to one of his most zealous
Progressive
followers, Matthew Hale, of Boston, on April 3,
1916:

"I meant literally and exactly every word of
my Trinidad